

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2975
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2006
UGC GRANTS TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria set for each category of grants on infrastructure and capacity enhancement to higher institutions through UGC including sports, library, skill upgradation modernization indicating grants for specially defined purposes like institution of backward districts, Junior Colleges etc. ;
- (b) whether the basis of these criteria are being reviewed on account of changed circumstances;
- (c) whether the latest categorization of the backward districts set by the Planning Commission based on several indicators has been adopted by UGC to ensure grant to the deserving colleges of backward districts;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to mandate incorporation of new areas to fit into the present requirement?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) : According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Commission provides financial assistance to eligible university/ colleges which are included under Section 2 (f) and declared fit to receive grant under Section 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956 as per approved pattern of assistance under the various schemes. UGC provides only development grants to eligible State Universities under the Plan, whereas, both Plan and Non-Plan grants are provided to Central Universities and eligible Deemed Universities. Under the scheme of Development assistance to colleges, financial assistance is provided to colleges for strengthening basic infrastructure and to meet their basic needs including books for journals and Scientific equipments. Under the Scheme of 'Special Development grant for universities/ college in Backward Areas, the Commission provides special development grant to the eligible colleges located in identified backward areas to ensure equity and access to higher education. A college recommended by an expert Committee, constituted by the UGC, is eligible to receive up to Rs. 10.00 lakhs as a 'One time grant'. The eligible Universities under the scheme are provided up to Rs.70.00 lakhs as one time additional grant over and above the Plan allocation. The Commission also provides financial assistance to eligible and deserving young colleges to ensure the equity and access to higher education.

(b): Yes, Sir. The schemes/ guidelines are reviewed in every Plan with the help of Expert Committees.

(c) to (f): Yes, Sir. The UGC is providing grants to eligible universities/ colleges physically located in Backward District which is below the level of total literacy on the basis of 2001 census as determined by the Planning Commission.